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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takahiro OCHI  
Title: BIOMATERIAL  
Appl. No.: 09/854,671  
Filing Date: May 15, 2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered into the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, please substitute for original claims 4-12, 14, 18, 21-24, 27-36, and 39-42 the following rewritten version of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

4. (Amended) A biomember according to claim 1, wherein a sum of a flat area of a pore (11) shown in any plain cross section and having a size larger than the mean pore diameter is not less than 25% and not more than 60% of the flat area of the total cross section.

a<sub>1</sub>

5. (Amended) A biomember according to claim 1, wherein a sum of a flat area of a pore (11) shown in any plain cross section and having a size larger than the mean pore diameter is not less than 35% and not more than 55% of the flat area of the total cross section.